matters of proliferation of nuclear weapon related technologies, particularly in our neighbourhood.

(c) Pakistan's clandestine efforts aimed at procuring nuclear technologies for weapons purposes have been highlighted in our bilateral discussions with various countries and our security concerns arising from such covert activities have been conveyed.

अनिवासी भारतीय बनने के मानदंड

196. **श्री दिलीप सिंह** : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) त्रिपुरा में ऐसे भारतीय नागरिकों की संख्या कितनी है, जो गत दो वर्षों के दौरान अनिवासी भारतीय बने हैं;

(ख) अनिवासी भारतीय बनने के लिए क्या-क्या मानदंड निर्धारित किये गये हैं;

(ग) भारतीय फिल्म उद्योग में ऐसे लोगों का ब्यौअरा क्या है, जो अनिवासी भारतीय बन गये है;

(घ) क्या अनिवासी भारतीयों को देश में कुछ रियायतें/सुविधाएं दी जाती है। और

(ड़) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती वसुन्धरा राजे) : (क) से (ग) वे भारतीय नागरिक जो रोजगार के लिए या व्यापार करने या व्यवसाय करने या किसी अन्य प्रयोजन से, भारत से बाहर अनिश्चितकाल तक ठहरने की परिस्थियों का उल्लेख करते हैं, वे अनिवासी भारतीय का दर्जा प्राप्त करने की योग्यता रखते हैं। सरकार के पास अनिवासी भारतीयों का राज्य-वार या व्यवसाय-वार कोई ब्यौरा नहीं है क्योंकि अनिवासी भारतीय का दर्जा प्राप्त करने के लिए किसी भी भारतीय नागरिक को कोई औपचारिक आवेदन प्रस्तुत करने की आवश्यकता नहीं पड़ती।

(घ) जी, हां।

(ड़) भारत में अनिवासी भारतीयों के निवेश को सुसाध्य बनाने और प्रोत्साहन करने के लिए अनिवासि भातीयों का एक आयुक्त वित्त-मंत्रालय के अधीन कार्य कर रहा है। विशेष सुविधाओं में, अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ भारथ में विरास्त में प्राप्त सम्पत्ती को रखने और अर्जित करने का अधिकार, विभिन्न योजनाओम के अन्तर्गत अ-प्रयावर्तन और प्रत्यावर्तन के आधार पर निवेश, भारत में अनिवासी बैंक खाते को रखने, प्राथमिकता वाले उद्योगों में निवेश करने, निर्यातोन्मुखी परियोजनाएं और अनिवासी बंधपत्र, कर-प्रोत्साहन, तथा अनिवासी भारतीयों की वापिसी पर दी जा रही विशेष आयात सुविधाएं शामिल है।

Fresh initiatives to rc-vitalise G-77 in the UN

197. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government propose to take any fresh initiatives to re-vitalise the Group of 77 in the United Nations;

(b)whether consultations have taken place in this connection with representatives of other major developing countries; and

(c)whether approaches have been made to the Government of the People's Republic of China soliciting more active interest on its part in the affairs of Third World countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) and (b) The Group of 77, of which India is an active member, have and continued to endeavour to adopt common positions on matters of interest to the Group in the United Nations.

(c) China, though not part of the Group of 77, often associates itself with the Group's position. No approaches have been made by the Government of India to the Government of the people's Republic of China soliciting more active interest on its part in the affairs of Third World countries.

Improving pcoplc-to-pcople contact between India and Pakistan

198. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a)the steps Government have taken to improve people-to-people contact between India and Pakistan; and

(b)What is the response of Pakistan with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) In keeping with our policy to promote pcoplc-to-people contacts and greater interaction among scholars, intellectuals, writers, artists, businessmen and others, Government unilaterally eased issuance of visas to Pakistani nationals by taking the following decisions:

(i) the maximum number of places to which Pakistani nationals can travel during a visit to India has been increased from 8 to 12.

(ii) grant of one-year visas to eligible Pakistani businessmen whenever necessary, with a provision for different checkpoints for entry into and exit from India;

(iii) international airport at Chennai has been designated as an additional checkpoint for the arrival and departure of Pakistani nationals in addition to Delhi and Mumbai air-. ports and the Attari railhead;

(iv) grant of exempt from police reporting (EPR) visas as far as possible to, inter alia, artists, journalists, students, businessmen, senior citizens and children;

(v) visa fees for, inter alia, senior citizens, artists, students and journalists have been waived;

(vi) provision to grant visas to elegible reputed Pakistani artists with the permission to give commercial performances;

(b) Government are not aware of any specific steps taken by Pakistan regarding its visa policy for Indian nationals.

Discussion for Revival of Nuclear Cooperation between India and USA

199. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussion has been held between India and USA regarding revival of nuclear cooperation for peaceful uses which has been suspended since 1974 following explosion of nuclear device by India;

(b)if so, the details of discussions held; and

(c)the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) to (c) India and the United States have been engaged in a wide-ranging dialogue on bilateral, regional and global issues intended to broaden and deepen our mutually beneficial relations and identify areas of cooperation. Cooperation in some areas of science and technology including nuclear power generation have been discussed in a preliminary way as part of this wide-ranging dialogue.

Summoning of Indian Diplomat by Chinese Foreign Office

200. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a)whether it is a fact that a senior Indian diplomat in Beijing was summoned by the Chinese foreign office twice on the recent statement of the Indian Defence Minister on China;

(b)if so, whether China has lodged a formal protest; and

(c)the details of the events leading to the Chinese protest and the diplomatic initiatives taken to explain the correct Indian position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE):

(a) to (c) During April-May, 1998, the Raksha Mantri had referred to China's military capabilities and potential, and reports concerning to China-Myanmar defence co-operation.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry conveyed to our Embassy officials in Beijing on April 16, 1998 and on May 6, 1998 that there had been improvement in Sino-Indian relations in recent years. They said that references in regard to China-